

APR 19 2002

REQUEST

FOR

CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE)  
TRANSMITTAL

Subsection (b) of 35 U.S.C. § 132, effective on May 29, 2000,  
provides for continued examination of an utility or plant application  
filed on or after June 8, 1995

See The American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA).

Application Number

09/043,406

Filing Date

March 18, 1998

First Named Inventor

O'Brien

Group Art Unit

2163

Examiner Name

Robinson, A.

Attorney Docket Number

36-1148

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 of the above-identified application.

**NOTE:** 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 is effective on May 29, 2000. If the above-identified application was filed prior to May 29, 2000, applicant may wish to consider filing a continued prosecution application (CPA) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(d) (PTO/SB/29) instead of a RCE to be eligible for the patent term adjustment provisions of the AIPA. See Changes to Application Examination and Provisional Application Practice, Final Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 50092 (Aug. 16, 2000); Interim Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 14865 (mar. 20, 2000), 1233 Off. Gaz. Pat. Office 47 (Apr. 11, 2000), which established RCE practice.

## 1. Submission required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114

a. ☒ Previously submittedi. ☒ Consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 previously filed on February 4, 2002  
(Any unentered amendment(s) referred to above will be entered)ii. ☐ Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed oniii. ☐ Otherb. ☐ Enclosedi. ☐ Amendment/Replyii. ☐ Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s)iii. ☐ Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)iv. ☐ Other

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## 2. Miscellaneous

a. ☐ Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 35 C.F.R. § 1.103(c) for a period of \_\_\_\_\_ months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(i) required)b. ☐ Other

## 3. Fees The RCE fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e) is required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 when the RCE is filed.

a. ☒ The Director is hereby authorized to charge the following fees, or credit any overpayments, to  
Deposit Account No. 14-1140i. ☐ RCE fee required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e)ii. ☐ Extension of time fee (37 C.F.R. §§ 1.136 and 1.17)iii. ☐ Otherb. ☒ Check in the amount of \$740.00 enclosedc. ☐ Payment by credit card (For PTO-2038 enclosed)

## SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED

Name (Print Type)

Raymond Y. Mah

Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)

41,426

Signature

Date

April 19, 2002

## CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner For Patents, Box RCE, Washington, DC 20231, or facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on:

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